Optimum utilisation has been obtained on the facilities by Air India/Indian Airlines since the capacity of these facilities is based on their own requirement.

Palace on Wheels in collaboration with a private hotel chain

6916. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to establish and roll a Palace on Wheels Luxury train-cum-hotel for foreign tourists in collaboration with a privte hotel chain in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposed hotel-on-Wheels is also likely to cover religious pilgrimages in Bihar which attracts good number of foreigners; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) It has been decided to introduce tourist trains of the type of Palace on Wheels on the eight circuits identified in the country. The tourist trains in Rajasthan, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu will be run in collaboration with Tourism Development Corporations of these States. For the remaining sectors, the Government is scrutinising to invite bids on 'build and operae basis' for the marketing and management of such trains.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. One of the eight itineraries identified includes Bihar.

Aviation and tourism agreements with foreign countries

6917. SHRI RAJUBRAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has recently signed bilateral aviation and tourism agreements with some countries and if so, the details thereof including salient features of each agreement;

(b) what are the details of the agreement expected to be signed during 1994-95; and

(c) what is the status of aviation and tourism agreement with Germany and the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) From 1.4.1993, agreements with following countries have been signed:—

Civil Aviation	Tourism
(i) Vietnam	(i) Belarus.
(ii) Uzbekistan	(ii) Israel.
(iii) Kyrghistan.	(iii) Uzbekistan.
(iv) Kazakhstan.	(iv) Korea.
(v) Turkmenistan.	(v) Singapore.
(vi) Zambia.	
(vii) Romania.	
(viii) Israel.	

The salient features of Civil Aviation Agreements are as follows:—

(ii) Number of Airlines to be designated by each country to operate on the route has been specified.

(ii) Principle of pre-determination shall be followed in the matter of frequency of services or in the capacity to be operated by the designated airlines of either party.

(iii) The agreed services shall be operated by the designated carrier of each country on the routes specified for them in respective agreements.

The salient features of Tourism agreements are as follows:—

(a) The Contracting Parties shall encourage measures for promoting and increasing exchange in tourism between the two countries.

(b) They will cooperate within International Tourism Organizations.